

REMARKS

In the Advisory Action mailed on August 29, 2005 (the “Advisory Action”), the Examiner noted correctly that merely overcoming the cited art was not tantamount to placing the patent application in a condition for allowance. The Applicants agree and remain appreciative for the helpful telephonic interview of June 15, 2005. Based upon that telephonic interview, the Applicants have amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner in an effort to overcome the cited art. The Applicants recognize that further search and consideration will be required in view of these amendments.

Also, in the Advisory Action, the Examiner has reminded the Applicants to address U.S. Patent No. 2,172,013 to Parry in consideration of the amended claims. Parry relates to trays or severers for sliced bread or other articles and has for its principal object, the provision of a device for protecting such articles against drying out and against contamination by air-borne particles, and at the same time rendering the contents of the tray easily accessible but subject to automatic protection. Referring to Figure 1, it will be apparent that the cover plate member denoted as element nine (9) has a hole through which the “inverted u-shaped bent portion” denoted as element fifteen (15) can pass.

Amended Claim 1 recites top and bottom parallel planar stacking surfaces without holes having a configuration to support at least one supported article of manufacture stacked on top of the top planar stacking surface. In Parry, however, the nearest structural element which can be analogized to a stacking surface is the cover plate member. The cover plate member, however, is not configured to support at least one supported article of manufacture stacked on top of the top

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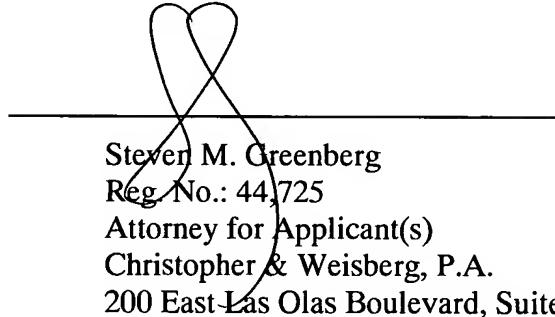
surface of the cover plate. Moreover, the top surface of the cover plate is not a "stacking surface". Finally, the cover plate includes an enormous hole through which the inverted u-shaped bent portion passes.

For all of the above reasons, the claim objections are believed to have been overcome placing. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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